

A  
MANUAL  
OF  
Prayers

For the USE of the  
SCHOLARS  
OF  
*Winchester College.*

And all other  
Devout Christians.

To which is added three Hymns  
for *Morning, Evening, and Mid-*  
*night*; not in the former Edi-  
tions: By the same Author.

*Newly Revised.*

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*An Exhortation to Young Philotheus.*

**I**F you have any regard, good *Philotheus*, to your own eternal happiness, it ought to be your chieftest care to serve and glorifie God. 'Tis for this end God both made and redeemed you, and two excellent rules He hath given

you in Holy Scripture, by the conscientious observation of which you will be able, through His grace, to dedicate your tender years to His glory.

The one teaches you what you are to do, *Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy Youth.* Eccles. 12. 1.

The other teaches you what you are to avoid, *Fly youthful lusts*; that is, all those sins which are usually incident to young Persons. 2 Tim. 2. 22.

You cannot imagine the unspeakable advantages a pious Youth gains by the practice of these two Rules; and how many ghostly dangers that Soul escapes, which is seasoned betimes with the fear of God, before he is sullied with ill company, before he hath contracted vicious habits, which will cost him infinite pains to unlearn, before his affections are too far engaged in the World, to be easily recalled,



called, and before the Devil hath got too strong a hold in him, to be suddenly dispossessed.

O *Philothetus*, Do but ask any one old Penitent, what fruit, what satisfaction he hath purchast to himself, by all those Pleasures of sin, which flattered him in his Youth, and of which he is now ashamed. Will he not sadly tell you, he has found them all, to be but vanity, and vexation of Spirit? How will he befool himself, for the many good opportunities he hath lost, and wish a thousand times that he were to live over his mispent days again? And how bitterly will he with *David*, bewail the sins of his youth? *Psal.* 25. 7.

Learn then, good *Phil.* by the dear-bought experience of others, to accustom your self to bear Christs yoke from your youth, and his yoke will sit easy on your neck; for your duty will grow natural to you by beginning betimes.

Do but consider, how welcome a young Convert is to God ; it was to young *Samuel* that God revealed himself, and that at such a time too, when the Word of God was precious, and very rare, to shew how much God honour'd a young Prophet; 1 *Sam.* 3. 1. and you know that St. *John*, the youngest of all the Disciples, is the only person of all the twelve, who was permitted to lean on our Saviour's bosom, at the last Supper, as dearest to him in affection, and who is emphatically called the Disciple whom Jesus loved: *John* 13. 23. and this is suitable to that gracious promise, which God hath made to encourage all young Persons to serve him; *I love them that love me, and they that seek me early shall find me*, Prov. 18. 7.

O *Philothous*, let this Heavenly promise excite in you a great zeal to seek God, and to seek him early,  
for

for if you do seek, you are sure to find him; you are sure, when you have found him, he will love you, and you shall reap all the happy effects of God's infinite Love, and of an early Piety.

An early Piety ! than which, nothing will make you a greater comfort to all your Friends, or a greater blessing to the very College where you are bred; nothing will make you more universally esteemed, and beloved by all Men, or more successful in your Studies; and besides, that peace of Conscience, and the pleasure of well-doing, you will at present feel; think if you can, how unconceivable a joy it will be to you, when in your elder years you can reflect on your well-spent time, and the innocence of your youth; how great a Consolation it will be to you, on your death-bed, how easie it will render your accounts at the great **Day of Judgment**, and how much

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a whole life spent in God's service, will increase your glory in Heaven.

God of his great mercy, *Philothews*, make these and the like considerations effectual to create holy Resolutions in you, and give you grace to make good use of these following directions which are designed to teach you to fear the Lord from your youth, and are suited to your particular Age and Condition, in hope they may the more affect you. God grant they may. *Amen.* 1 King. 18. 12.

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*Directions in general.*

**A**S soon as ever you awake in the Morning, good *Philothews*, strive as much as you can, to keep all worldly thoughts out of your mind, till you have presented  
the

the first fruits of the day to God, which will be an excellent preparative, to make you spend the rest of it the better ; and therefore be sure to sing the Morning and Evening Hymn in your Chamber devoutly, remembring that the Psalmist, upon happy experience assures you, that it is a good thing to tell of the loving kindness of the Lord early in the morning, and of his truth in the night season. *Psal. 92. 1.*

When you are ready to look on your Soul as still undrest till you have said your Prayers.

Remember that God under the Law ordained a Lamb to be offered up to him every Morning and Evening. A Lamb ! which is a fit emblem of Youth, and Innocence ; think then that you are to resemble this Lamb, and be sure every day to offer up your self a Morning and Evening Sacrifice to God. *Exod. 29. 38.*

If you are a Commoner, you may say your Prayers in your own Chamber; but if you are a Child or a Chorister, then to avoid the interruptions of the Common Chambers, go into the Chappel, between first and second Peal, in the Morning, to say your Morning Prayers, and say your Evening Prayers when you go *Circum*.

Now that every one may have his duty proportioned to his capacity, the best way is to distinguish two degrees of young Christians in this College, namely, those that are of an Age capable of receiving the Holy Sacrament, and those that are not; and in one of these two degrees you are to rank your self.

[*Directions*]

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*Directions for the Youngest.*

**I**F you are very young, good *Philothous*, that God's Commands may not seem grievous to you, at your first setting out, I shall advise you to no more, than your Infant Devotion will bear; and that is, to take great care to learn your Catechism without Book, and to learn to understand it; for 'tis impossible you can ever perform your duty, unless you first know what it is; 'tis impossible you can ever go to Heaven, unless you learn the way thither: And that you may beg God's daily blessing, and his grace to assist you, learn these two short Prayers by heart, and say them every day.

*Morning*

*Morning Prayer.*

**G**Lory be to Thee, O Lord God, for all the blessings I daily receive from Thee, and for Thy particular preservation, and refreshment of me, this night past.

O Lord, have mercy upon me, and forgive whatsoever Thou hast seen amiss in me this night; and for the time to come, give me grace to fly all youthful lusts, and to remember Thee, my Creator, in the days of my Youth.

Shower down Thy graces, and blessings on me, and on all my Relations [*on my Father and Mother, on my Brethren and Sisters*] on all my Friends, on all my Governors in this place, and on all my Fellow-Scholars, and give thy Angels charge over us, to protect us all from sin and danger.

Lord,



Lord, 'bless me in my Learning  
this day, that I may every day  
grow more fit for Thy service. O  
pardon my failings and do more  
for me than I can ask, or think,  
for the merits of Jesus my Saviour,  
in whose holy words I sum up all  
my wants. *Our Father which art  
in Heaven, &c.*

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*Evening Prayer.*

**G**Lory be to Thee, O Lord  
God, for all the blessings  
I daily receive from Thee, and  
for Thy particular preservation  
of me this day.

O Lord have mercy upon me,  
and forgive whatsoever thou hast  
seen amiss in me this day past; and  
for the time to comē; give me grace  
to fly all youthful lusts, and to re-  
member Thee my Creator in the  
days of my youth,

Lord

Lord, receive me and all my Relations, and all that belong to this College, into Thy gracious protection this night, and send me such seasonable rest, that I may rise the next morning, more fit for Thy service.

Lord, hear my Prayers, and pardon my Failings, for the Merit of my blessed Saviour, in whose holy words I sum up all my wants. *Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.*

This, good *Phil.* is the lowest degree of duty, and it should be your daily endeavour to improve in your Devotion, as well as in your Learning; and the more effectually to move you to so happy an improvement, I advise you on Sundays and Holidays attentively to read over this following Meditation, and to propose to your self, the Holy Child Jesus, for your example.

*A Meditation on the Holy Child Jesus.*

**G**Lory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus, Glory be to Thee, who when thou wert twelve years old, didst go up to *Jerusalem* with thy Parents, after the custom of the Feast, to eat the Passover, and to worship thy Heavenly Father, *Luke 2. 41.*

O Blessed Saviour, give me grace like Thee, to make Religion my first and chiefest care, and devoutly to observe all solemn times, and all Holy Rites, which relate to Thy Worship.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus, Glory be to Thee, who when Thy Parents returned home, didst stay behind in *Jerusalem*, and after three days, wast found of them in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the Doctors, both hearing them,

them, and asking them questions.

O blessed Saviour, who in Thy very Child-hood, didst triumph over all the vain delights of youth, and wouldst chuse no place but the Temple to reside in, Mortifie in me all inordinate love of sensual pleasure, which may pervert me from my duty; raise in me an awful reverence of Thy house, an early devotion in my Prayers, and a delight in Thy Praises.

O blessed Jesu, who didst chuse before all others, the company of the Doctors, and didst both hear them, and ask them questions; give me grace to abhor all lewd company, and all filthy communication; give me grace to love wise, and sober, and profitable, and religious conversation, and to be diligent, and inquisitive after learning, and whatsoever is good.

Glory

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Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus, Glory be to Thee, who when thy Father and Mother had sought Thee, sorrowing, didst reply to them, How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business.

O blessed Jesu, who from thy infancy didst make it thy whole imployment, to do thy Father's Will, kindle in me a forward zeal for thy Glory, that I may consecrate my Youth to thy service, and make it the great business of my life, to know and fear, to love and obey my Heavenly Father.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Jesus, Glory be to thee, who didst at last return home with thy Parents, and wert subject to them.

O blessed Jesu, give me grace to honour my Parents, and Governors, and readily to obey all their lawful Commands!

Glory

Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus,  
Glory be to Thee, who in those  
tender years wert blessed with such  
heavenly Wisdom, that all that  
heard Thee were astonished at thy  
understanding and answers, who  
didst daily increase in this heaven-  
ly Wisdom, and in favour with God  
and man!

O Lord Jesu, bless me with all  
abilities of mind and body, that  
may make me daily increase in my  
Learning; but above all, bless me  
with Wisdom from above, and give  
me thy holy Spirit to assist and en-  
lighten me, that as I grow in Age,  
I may daily grow in Grace, and in  
the knowledge of Thee, and in  
favour with God and Man; and  
every day more and more conform-  
able to thy unsinning and divine  
Example. *Amen*, Lord Jesus, *Amen*.

*Directions*

*Directions for those that are more  
grown in Years.*

**W**Hen you have attained to more knowledge and proficiency in grace, and are of an age capable of receiving the Holy Sacrament, God then expects more from you; and 'tis high time for you, good *Philotheus*, to lengthen your Prayers, and to begin to add some Ejaculations over and above, such as these are, which follow.

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*Ejaculations at waking or rising.*

**A**Wake, O my Soul, and sing praises to God.

Glory be to Thee, O God, for watching over me this night.

Lord, raise me up at the last day, to life everlasting.

*Morn-*

*Morning Prayer.*

**E**Arly in the morning will I cry  
unto Thee, Lord, hear my  
Prayer.

Glory be to thee, Lord God Almighty, Glory be to thee, for renewing thy mercies to me every morning; Glory be to thee, for refreshing me this night with sleep, and for preserving me from the perils of Darkneſs.

O do away, as the night, ſo my transgreſſions; ſcatter my ſins as the morning Cloud!

Lord, forgive whatever thou haſt ſeen amiſs in me this night, [my—*Here if you are conſcious to your ſelf of any ſin committed in the night, confeſs it.*] O Father of Mercies, waſh me thoroughly from my wickedneſs, and cleanſe me from my ſin.

And



And let thy Holy Spirit so prevent and accompany, and follow me this day, that I may believe in Thee, and love Thee, and keep thy Commandments, and continue in thy fear all the day long.

Lord, make me chaste and temperate, humble and advisable, diligent in my studies, obedient to my Superiors, and charitable to all men.

Lord, deliver me from sloth and idleness, from youthful lusts, and ill company, from all dangers bodily and ghostly, and give me grace, to remember thee my Creator in the days of my youth.

Bless, and defend, and save the King, and all the Royal Family, and all Orders of Men amongst us, Ecclesiastical or Civil; Lord give them all grace in their several stations, to be instrumental to thy glory, and the publick good.

Together with them, I commend to thy Divine Providence [ *My Father*

*Father and Mother, my Brethren and Sisters*] all my Friends and Relations, all my Superiors in this place, and all my Fellow-Scholars; O Lord vouchsafe us all those graces and blessings which thou knowest to be most suitable for us.

Unto Thee, O my God, do I dedicate this day, and my whole life; O do Thou so bless and prosper me in my studies, that I may every day grow more fit for Thy service.

Hear me, O Lord, and pardon my failings, for the Merits of Thy Son Jesus, in whose holy words I sum up all my wants. *Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.*

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*Directions for Reading Holy Scripture.*

**W**Hen you have said your Morning Prayer, good *Phil.* you may then go chearfully to your Study, and rely upon the Divine Goodness for a blessing.

But

But first, if you have time, I advise you to read before second Peal, some short Psalm or piece of a Chapter out of the Gospel, or Historical Books, because they are the most easy to be understood; remembering the Example of young *Timothy*, who was bred up to know the Scripture from a Child, *2 Tim. 3.*

But if you want time on ordinary days, to read the Scripture, be sure to read somewhat of it on Sundays, and Holidays; and consider, that you have it daily read to you in the Hall before Dinner and Supper, and at Night when you are just going to Bed, that you may close the Day with holy thoughts; and if you hearken diligently to it when it is read, you do in effect read it your self.

Now to make your reading the more profitable to you, begin with one or more of these Ejaculations.

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Ejacu-

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*Ejaculations before Reading  
Holy Scripture.*

**W**Herewithal, Lord, shall a Young Man cleanse his way? even by ruling himself after thy Word, *Psal.* 119.

Lord open my eyes, that I may see the wonderful things of thy Law.

O Heavenly Father! I humbly beg thy Holy Spirit, so to help me at this time to read, and understand, and remember, and practise thy Word, that it may make me wise to Salvation.

When you are thus prepared good *Phil.* then begin to read, and consider, that it is God's most holy Word you read; and that all the while you are reading, God is speaking to you, and therefore read with attention and humility.

and

and endeavour as much as you can,  
to suit your affections to the subject  
you read.

For instance, if you read any of  
God's Commands, they should ex-  
cite in you a zeal to keep them.

If you read any of God's threat-  
nings against Sinners, or his Judg-  
ments on them, they should excite  
in you a fear to provoke him.

When you read any of his gra-  
cious Promises, they should encou-  
rage and quicken your Obedience.

When you read any of God's  
Mercies, they should excite you to  
Thanksgiving.

When you read any great My-  
stery recorded in Holy Writ, you  
are to prostrate your Reason to di-  
vine Revelation.

And to this purpose in the midst  
of your reading, say,

Lord, give me grace to obey  
this Command ; or,

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Lord, deliver me from this sin,  
or this judgment; *or*,  
Lord, I rely on this good pro-  
mise; *or*,  
Glory be to Thee, O Lord, for  
this mercy; *or*,  
Lord, I believe and adore this  
mystery.

Say any of these, according as  
best agrees with the subject you  
read; and when you have read as  
much as conveniently you can,  
conclude with one of these Ejacu-  
lations.

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*Ejaculations after Reading.*

**B**Lessed be Thou, O Lord, O  
teach me thy Statutes! *Psal.*  
119.

Lord, make thy Word a Lan-  
thorn unto my feet, and a Light  
unto my Paths!

Lord,

Lord, make Thy Word my delight and my counsellor !

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*Directions for the Day-time.*

**O** *Philotheus*, you cannot enough thank God for the order of the place you live in, where there is so much care taken to make you a good Christian as well as a good Scholar, where you go so frequently to Prayers every day in the Chappel, and in the School; and sing Hymns and Psalms to God so frequently in your Chamber, and in the Chappel, and in the Hall, so that you are in a manner brought up in a perpetuity of Prayer.

Be sure, *Phil.* that you are accountable to God for all these opportunities he gives you of serving him; and think how many Blessings for your self, and for the College you might obtain, if you

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prayed

prayed and praised God, rather out of a devout affection, than meerly to comply with the custom of the place.

Prayer, good *Phil.* is the very life of a Christian, and therefore we are so frequently commanded to pray without ceasing: Not that we can be always on our knees, but that we should accustom ourselves to frequent thoughts of God, that wheresoever we are, he sees us; and when we think on God, we should have always an Ejaculation ready to offer up to him, and by this means we may pray, not only seven times a day with *David*, but all the day long, *Psal.* 119.

In your reading Holy Scripture, especially in the Psalms, you may easily gather those short sentences which most affect you, for they are most proper for this use; and when you have learn'd them without Book, say one of them now  
and



and then, as they occur to your mind, or as occasion requires, or as your devotion prompts you.

But be not troubled, if being otherwise lawfully employed, or if being indisposed, you pass a whole day without saying any, for to omit them is no sin; nor be you scrupulous in what posture you say them; for they being short breathings of the soul to God, require not that solemnity, as set Prayer does.

Now to give you some instances of Ejaculatory Prayer, take these following.

*At going out.*

Lord, bless my going out, and my coming in, from this time forth for evermore, *Psal.* 121. 7.

*After a Sin committed.*

Lord, be merciful to me miserable

rable Sinner, and for the Merits of my Saviour, lay not this Sin to my charge.

*After any Blessing or Deliverance.*

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, for this Blessing, or for this Deliverance!

Praise the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me, praise his holy Name, *Psal* 103.

*At giving Alms.*

O Lord, who didst not despise the Widows Mite, accept of this little I now give, to relieve one of Thy poor Members! *Mark* 12. 42.

*After having done any good.*

Not unto me, O Lord, not unto me, but unto Thy Name be the praise, *Psal*. 115. 1.

*In*

*In Temptation.*

Lord succour me with Thy Grace, that I may overcome this Temptation.

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*Directions for the Evening.*

**C**onsider, good *Phil.* how many that have gone to bed well over-night, have been found dead the next morning; and therefore it highly concerns you to take care to make your peace with God before you go to sleep.

I advise you therefore towards night, or when you go *Circum*, to call your self to an account how you have spent the day.

Examine your thoughts and discourses, and actions, and recreations, and devotions, and see what has been amiss in any of them.

Consider what idleness or unchastity, what lying or stubbornness you have been guilty of; or whether you have had a quarrel with any of your fellow; and if you have, be sure to be friends with him before you say your Prayers.

Again, Consider what particular blessing, or deliverance, God has vouchsafed you the day past, that you may give thanks for it, and then say as follows.

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*Evening Prayer.*

**L**et my Prayer, O Lord, be set forth in Thy sight as incense, and the lifting up of my hands as an Evening Sacrifice, *Psalm 141.*  
 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts.  
 I miserable Sinner acknowledge that I have offended Thee this day, in thought, word, and deed.

deed, [Particularly by — *Here mention any Sin you have been guilty of.*] But I fly into the Arms of Thy Fatherly compassion; Lord, for Thy mercies sake forgive me, cleanse me from my Wickedness and strengthen my weakness, that I may overcome all the temptations which daily surround me, and continue constant in my obedience.

Accept of my humblest Praise and Thanksgiving, O Lord, for all the goodness Thou hast this day shewed me; for all the helps of preventing or restraining Grace, Thou hast vouchsafed me; for whatever I have done this day, which is in any measure acceptable to Thee; for whatever progress I have made in my Study, for Thy preservation of me, from all the temptations and dangers which frail humanity is every moment exposed to. — *Here name the particular blessing or deliverance*

Praise

Praise the Lord, O my Soul,  
who saveth thy life from destruction,  
and crowneth thee with mercy,  
and loving kindness.

O Heavenly Father, to thy Almighty Protection I recommend my self and all my Relations, and all that belong to this College; O Thou that never slumberest nor sleepest, watch over us, to preserve us from sin and danger.

Lord, let it be Thy good pleasure to refresh me this night with such seasonable rest, that I may rise the next morning more fit for Thy Service; O pardon my failings, and hear my Prayers, for the sake of my blessed Saviour, in whose holy words, I sum up all my wants.  
*Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.*

*Ejaculations at going to Bed.*

**L**ord, as I now go to my Bed, I must one day go to my Grave, O make me wise to consider my latter end !

I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest, for it is Thou Lord only, makest me dwell in safety,  
*Psal. 4. 9.*

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*Directions for Midnight.*

**I**F you chance to wake in the Night, or cannot sleep, beware, *Psal.* of idle and unclean thoughts which will then be apt to croud into your mind, and therefore to arm your self against them, I advise you to learn the 130. and the 131. *Psalms* by heart, or treasure up some *Ejaculations* in your mind, which

which will be excellent matter for your thoughts to feed on. For instance,

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*Ejuculations for the Night.*

**T**Hou Lord hast granted Thy loving kindness in the day time, and in the Night-season will I sing of Thee, and make my Prayer to the God of my life, *Psal. 41. 8.*

O Lord, the Holy Angels are now before thy Throne in Heaven, they never rest, day or night, from thy Praises, and with them do I now sing Hallelujah, Salvation, and Honour, and Glory, and Power, be unto our God, for ever and ever. *Amen, Amen, Rev. 7. 15.*

Lord, I know Thou wilt one day call me, to give an account of my Stewardship, but when Thou wilt



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wilt come I know not, whether at Even, or at Midnight, or at Cock-crowing, or in the Morning, *Mark* 13. 35.

O do Thou give me grace to watch, and to pray always, that at Thy coming thou mayest say to me, Well done, good and faithful Servant, enter into the joy of thy Master. *Amen*, blessed Lord, *Amen*.

But have a care, *Phil.* you fix not your mind too much, neither strive to repeat too many devout expressions, for fear of hindring your sleep, and of indisposing your self, for the duties of the day following.

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*Directions for the Lord's Day.*

**A** Good Christian, *Philothheus*, that takes care to spend every day well, will take more than  
or-

ordinary care to sanctifie the Lord's Day, it being the proper imployment of that day, to attend God's Worship, and to provide for our Souls, and therefore 'tis fit you should add some Petitions to your morning and evening Prayer, relating to the solemn duties of the day; such as these are which follow.

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*Before Church-time.*

**O** My God, I humbly beseech Thee to prepare my Soul to worship Thee this day acceptably, with Reverence and godly Fear; fill me with that Faith which works by love; purify my Heart from all vain, or worldly, or sinful Thoughts, fix my Affections on things above, all the day long; and, O Lord, give me grace to receive thy Word which I shall hear this day, into an honest and good heart,

heart, and to bring forth fruit with patience, *Luke 8. 15.* Hear me, O God, for the sake of Jesus my Saviour. *Amen, Amen.*

When you come into the Church or Chappel, not only on the Lord's day, but on any other day, use this short preparatory Prayer at your first kneeling down.

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*In the Church.*

**O** Lord, I humbly beg Thy Holy Spirit to help my infirmities at this time, and to dispose my heart to devotion, that my Prayers and Praises may be acceptable in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ my Saviour. *Amen.*

*After*

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*After Church-time.*

**G**Lory be to Thee, O Lord God Almighty, Glory be to Thee, who hast permitted me to appear before Thee this day, and to tread Thy Courts!

Lord, pardon all my failings in Thy Service, this day past, the wandrings and coldness, & indevotion of my Prayers. For the sake of my blessed Saviour, have mercy upon me.

Lord make me a doer of Thy Word, and not a hearer only, lest I deceive my own soul, *Jam. 1. 22.*

When you are called to Repetition at night, remember, *Phil.* to make some amends for your negligent hearing at the Church, and treasure up in your memory some little portion of those instructions  
you

*for Winchester Scholars.* 39  
you have heard, to direct your  
practice.

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*Directions for receiving the  
Holy Eucharist.*

**T**HE Receiving of the Blessed  
Sacrament, good *Phil.* is the  
most divine and solemn Act of all  
our Religion, and it ought to be  
the zealous endeavour of every  
true Christian, by God's assistance,  
to prepare his Soul, with the most  
serious, and most devout dispositi-  
ons he possibly can, to approach  
the Holy Altar: You are there-  
fore to consider what you are to do  
before Receiving, what in the time  
of Receiving, and what after Re-  
ceiving.

*Before Receiving.*

The duties you are to perform  
before

before Receiving, are all comprehended in that one Rule which *S. Paul* gives us, *1 Cor. 11. Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that Bread, and drink of that Cup*, which are in a manner Commented on by the Church, in the Exhortation before the Sacrament, which I advise you to read over in your Common Prayer-Book.

To put this Rule in practice, 'tis your best way, *Phil.* at some convenient time to withdraw yourself into your Chamber, or into the Chappel, and there to begin to commune with your own heart, and to call your sins to remembrance; but first pray heartily to God for his Grace to assist you.

*Prayer before Examination.*

Hear the voice of my humble Petition, O Lord, now I cry unto Thee, and lift up my hands towards Thy Mercy-Seat.

Be-

Behold, Lord, now I am about to search into my own heart: but alas, alas! my heart is deceitful, and desperately wicked, how can I know it? *Jer.* 17. 9. Thou therefore that searchest the heart, and triest the reins, discover to me all the evil and deceits of my own heart, that I may confess, and bewail, and forsake them, and obtain mercy. Lord hear me, Lord help me, for the Merits of Jesus my Saviour. *Amen, Amen.*

*Rules to be observed in Examination.*

HAVING prayed for God's assistance, doubt not, *Phil.* but he will vouchsafe it you; and to guide you in your Examination the better, observe these following Directions.

When you examine your self, either by the following Catalogue, or by that in the *Whole Duty of Man*,

*Man*, or by any other: Pause a while on every particular; and if you find your self not guilty, then say, Glory be to Thee, O Lord, for preserving me from this Sin: and so go on.

When your Conscience answers guilty, then it will be your best way, having said, Lord have mercy upon me, and forgive me this Sin, to write down that Sin in a Paper, that you may have it ready to confess to God, when your Examination is done.

You are to consider, *Phil.* that there are several degrees of young Penitents, and some are more, some less sinful. For instance:

Some there are, who either through want of conscientious Parents, or through often stifling good motions, or through inconstancy, or heedlessness, or unadvisedness, or vicious company, or ill nature, or youthful lusts, and the like, have been from their infancy



fancy very negligent of Learning, or at least of practising their Duty.

Again, Some there are amongst these, whose sins are more heinous than ordinary, in regard they are accompanied with several aggravations: For any sin is much aggravated, if it be committed knowingly, or deliberately, or frequently: more than that if it be committed obstinately, or presumptuously, or on slight, or no temptations, or against checks of Conscience, or against reproofs, or admonitions, or chastisements, or vows to the contrary; but most of all, if it be committed so long, and so often, till it becomes habitual, till the Sinner does take delight in it, or boast of it, or makes a mock at it, or tempt others also to commit it. All these and the like circumstances do very much heighten the guilt of any sin.

You

You may easily from hence guess what progress you have made in wickedness, and if you find yourself in the number of any of these, by all means, good *Phil.* resolve to repent immediately, and to confess your sins with all their aggravations; for before of this, that every other step you run farther from Heaven, every other hour you continue longer in a sinful course, makes your sins the more hard to be mastered, and your repentance the more difficult.

On the other side, some there are, though I fear but few, who having been brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, have been by the goodness of God, secured from violent temptations, and enormous sins; who have like *Josiah*, while they were yet young, fought the Lord, and have in a great measure kept their Baptismal Vow, and preserved a sense of their duty.

2 *Chron.* 3. 3.

Such

Such as these have fewer Sins to confess, and those Sins less aggravated, and therefore have greater obligations to magnify God's mercy than others; but if you are in this number, have a care of growing careless in your examination, or of presuming on your own innocence: For if we say, or think, we have no Sin, we miserably deceive our selves, 1 John 1.

O *Phil.* the best of Men, God knows, have very much evil in them to detest and bewail, and have infinite need of a Saviour, and therefore let him that standeth, take heed lest he fall, 1 Cor. 10. 12.

Whatever you do then, be sure to keep your heart with all diligence, and to pray for constant supplies of God's grace, for perhaps the Devil defers his tempting you till you are grown up, and become your own master, and have not that tenderness of offending, or that

awe of Parents, or Superiors, which you now have.

Be not over-scrupulous, *Phil.* either to make your self guilty of more sins than really you are, or to reckon up all your infirmities or daily failings, or sins of omission, which would render your examination endless and impossible; but examine your self chiefly about your wilful sins, or sins of commission; and know there be many sins, even of commission, that you may doubt whether you have committed or no, many that you have quite forgot; but be not disheartened at it, for holy *David* hath taught you, that a general Confession for such Sins is enough, when he prays to God to cleanse him from his secret faults, *Psal* 19. 12.

That you may gain a true sense of your sins, by your examination, labour to imprint in your mind awful apprehensions of the day of Judgment, and of God the great Judge,

Judge, in whose presence you now are; and to raise such apprehensions, dwell a while on such Meditations as these.

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*Motives to Examination.*

**O** My soul, thou art now in the presence of the great Judge of Heaven and Earth, before whose dreadful Tribunal thou must certainly appear at the day of Judgment, to give a strict account of all thy actions, and of every idle word, of every evil thought, and thy own Conscience will then be thy Accuser.

Think, O my soul, think if thou canst, what unimaginable horrors will seize an impenitent Sinner, when the last trump calls him out of his Grave, and the Devils begin to drag him to God's Judgment Seat! What would such a

wretch give to purchase one such opportunity of Repentance, as God now in great mercy gives thee? If ever thou hopest to escape those horrors, O my soul, make thy peace with God, judge thyself here, lest thou be condemned hereafter!

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*The Examination it self.*

**I** Adjure thee, O my soul, in the presence of the great Judge, who knows all the secrets of thy heart, I adjure thee, as thou wilt answer before God's Judgment-seat at the last day, to tell me.

Does not thy daily experience teach thee, that thy whole Nature is corrupt, prone to all that is evil, averse to all that is good?

How hast thou spent thy time from thy Childhood to this very moment?

How hast thou kept the solemn Vow of thy Baptism? What

What good duties hast thou omitted?

What sins hast thou committed?

In particular, What sins art thou guilty of, more immediately, *against God*?

Art thou guilty of any Infidelity or Atheism, any distrust in, or presumption on, or despair of God's Mercy?

Art thou guilty of any wilful ignorance of God, or of any Idolatry in worshipping any Creature? hast thou loved any thing more than God, or feared any one above him?

Hast thou been guilty of Hypocrisy in God's service, or of forsaking God, and of resorting to the Devil, to Witches, or Wizards?

Art thou guilty of repining or murmuring at God's providence, or of being impatient under his afflictions, or of being unthankful for his mercies, or of being disobedient to his Commands, or of being incorrigible under his Judgments?

C 3 When,

When, and in what manner hast thou been guilty of dishonouring God?

By blasphemous or irreligious thoughts, or discourses; or by tamely hearing others blaspheme?

By taking God's most holy Name in vain, or by customary or false swearing, or by the breach of any lawful Oath, or solemn Vows?

By any Sacrilege, or irreverent behaviour in God's House, or mispending the Lord's Day, or any neglect of, or in-attention to Gods Word, read or preacht; or unprofitableness under the means of Grace?

Have I dishonoured God, by coldness, and wanderings, and indevotion, or carelesness in my Prayers, or by any weariness in his Service, or by any total neglect of it, or by unworthy Communicating?

By impenitence, or putting off the evil day, or superficial and partial repentances, or frequent re-



for Winchester Scholars. 51

relapses, or resisting the good motions of God's Spirit?

By abetting any Schism, or Heresy, or Prophaneness?

O my soul, what sins art thou guilty of, more immediately *against thy Self*?

Art thou guilty of Pride, either of thy cloaths, or of thy estate, or of thy credit, or of thy parts, or of thy own holiness, or of boasting of thy own good deeds, or of commending thy self, or of being greedy of praise, or of performing good duties to gain applause, or of committing sin to avoid reproach of men?

Hast thou been immoderately greedy of riches, or of sensual pleasures, or guilty of peevishness, or of too violent, or too lasting fits of anger, or of inconstancy, or of inconsideration, or of discontentedness with thy condition?

Hast thou been guilty of mis-  
C 4 spend-

spending thy time, or of negligence in resisting temptations, or of not improving those opportunities of Learning and Piety, which God gives thee in this place, or of abusing thy natural parts to sin?

Hast thou been guilty of any intemperance in eating, or in drinking, or in sleeping, or in recreations, spending too much time on them, or being too greedy after them?

Hast thou been guilty of idleness, or of downright drunkenness, or of laughing at it in others?

Hast thou been guilty of any uncleanness of the eye, or of the hand, or of the fancy, of any lasciviousness, or Lust, or Fornication, or Adultery, or hast thou taken delight in lewd company, or in vitious or unchast Songs, or Stories, or Expressions?

O my soul, what sins art thou guilty of, more immediately, *against thy Neighbour*?

How,

How, when, where, against whom hast thou been guilty of any injury, or injustice, or oppression, or breach of trust, or promise, or of any fraud, or theft, or flattery, or dissimulation, or treachery, or lying, or of giving any just scandal?

How, when, where, against whom hast thou been guilty of any ill language or detraction, or slander, or tale-bearing, or rash-censuring, or back-biting, or of contemning, or scoffing at thy Neighbour, either for his infirmities, or for his being religious?

How, when, where, against whom hast thou been guilty of any contentiousness, or spight, or revenge, or of delighting causelessly to grieve thy Neighbour, or of railing, or of actually hurting him, or of murdering him in thy mind, by ill wishes, or curses? Hast thou been guilty of bitter imprecations, or bearing false witness, or covetousness of any thing he possesses?

Hast thou been guilty of unthankfulness to those that have done thee good, or have reprov'd thee, or of uncharitableness to the poor, or to any Christian in distress, or of any unnaturalness to any of thy relations, or of any evil speaking, or disrespect, or stubbornness against any of thy Governours, either Civil or Ecclesiastical; or in particular against thy Parents or Superiours in this place, or of any wilful disobedience to the lawful commands of all, or either of them?

Hast thou tempted any other to sin, by connivence, or encouragement, or command, or perswasion, and mightily encreased thy own guilt by furthering the damnation of thy Brother?

In case, *Phil.* you do find this Examination too difficult for you, or are afraid you shall not rightly perform it, or meet with any scruples, or troubles of Conscience, in the practice

practice of it, I then advise you, as the Church does, to go to one of your Superiors in this place, to be your Spiritual Guide, and be not ashamed to unburthen your soul freely to him, that besides his Ghostly Counsel, you may receive the benefit of Absolution: For though Confession of our sins to God is only matter of duty, and absolutely necessary, yet Confession to our Spiritual Guide also, is by many devout Souls, found to be very advantageous to true Repentance.

If upon your Examination, *Phil.* you find you have any way wronged your Neighbour, resolve upon the first opportunity to make him some suitable satisfaction, and to ask his forgiveness; for you are first to be reconciled to your Brother, before you come to the Altar to offer your gift, *Matth. 5. 23.*

If you are guilty of tempting any other to sin, ask God's pardon for him,

him, as well as for your self, and if you have any opportunity to do it, exhort him to repentance.

But if any have wronged you, forgive the injury presently, for you beg forgiveness of God on this very condition, that you your self forgive your Brother.

This examination of your self, *Phil.* I suppose will be task enough for you at one time; and therefore that you may not tire your self, you may conclude with this short Prayer.

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*A Prayer after Examination.*

**O** Lord God, I have now by Thy assistance, considered my own evil ways, O thou who only knowest the heart, and who only canst change it, Create in me such a broken and contrite heart which thou hast promised not to despise, and so deep a sense of my  
own

own sin and misery, that my Repentance may bear some proportion to my guilt. O my God, pardon all my failings, and perfect that good work thou hast begun in me, for the merits of Jesus my Saviour, in whose holy words I sum up all my wants. *Our Father, &c.*

At the very next opportunity of retiring you can get. resolve, good *Phil.* with the Prodigal, to return to your Heavenly Father, and humbly to beg forgiveness; and having brought your Catalogue of sins with you, kneel down, and with the lowest prostrations of soul and body, make your Confession to God of your sins, and of their aggravations.

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*A Form of Confession.*

**O** Thou great Judge of Heaven and Earth, before whose Glorious Majesty, even the good  
An-

Angels, who never sinned, fall prostrate and tremble.

With what debasement and dread ought I to appear before Thy awful presence, who am but dust and ashes, and which is infinitely worse, a miserable wretched sinner!

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, with the least approbation; the way of the wicked, and the sacrifice of the Wicked is an abomination to Thee! *Prov. 15. 8.*

Who is me then, O Lord, who is me, for I have inclined unto wickedness with my heart, but for the sake of thy well-beloved Son, Cast not out my Prayer, nor turn Thy mercy from me, *Psal. 66.*

Miserable wretch that I am, I have gone astray from the very womb, I was shapen in wickedness, and in sin did my mother conceive me / Who can bring a clean Thing out of an unclean? What is man then,



then, O God, that he should be clean, or he that is born of a Woman, that he should be righteous!

Thou Lord, puttest no trust in Thy Saints, and the Heavens are not clean in thy sight, and the very Angels Thou chargest with Folly!

*Job. 4.*

How much more abominable then, and filthy am I, who daily drink iniquity like water!

Lord, pity, and cleanse, and forgive, and save me, for thy Mercies sake.

I know, O God, that in my flesh dwelleth no good thing; for when I would do good, evil is present with me, and I see a Law in my members warring against the Law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin, *Rom. 7.*

Lord have mercy upon me, and deliver me from this body of death, from this tyranny of sin.

Alas, alas, my whole nature is corrupt, infinitely prone to all evil,  
and

and averse to all that is good : my understanding is full of ignorance and error, my will is perverse, my memory tenacious of all things that may pollute me, and forgetful of my duty ; my passions are inordinate, my senses the inlets of all impurity, and I have abused all my faculties, I am unclean, unclean !

Lord, pity, and cleanse, and forgive, and save me, for thy mercies sake.

O Lord God, how have I through my whole life violated the solemn Vow I made to Thee in my Baptism, by eagerly pursuing the vanities of this wicked world, by easily yielding to the temptations of the Devil, by greedily indulging my own carnal desires and lusts, by a fruitless and dead faith, and by disobedience to thy holy will and commands.

Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in Thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called Thy Son.

I have sinned, O Lord God, I have sinned *against Thee*, by —

*Here confess out of your Paper, the sins which you have committed more immediately against God, with those aggravations that accompany them. For instance, Lord, I have committed this sin, or these sins, frequently, against checks of Conscience, &c. and then add:*

Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in Thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called Thy Son, O pity, and cleanse, and forgive, and save me for thy mercies sake.

I have sinned, O Lord God, I have sinned *against Thee*, and *against my own self*, by —

*Here confess the sins you have committed more immediately against your self, with their aggravations, &c. and say as before:*

Father, I have sinned against Heaven, &c.

I have sinned, O Lord God, I have sinned, *against Thee, and against my Neighbour*, by——

*Here confess the Sins you have committed more immediately against your Neighbour, with their aggravations, &c. and add as before.*

Father, I have sinned against Heaven, &c.

O Lord God, my wickedness is great, and my iniquities are infinite, they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart would fail me, but that I well know Thy mercies are more numberless than my sins, *Psal. 40. 12.*

Have mercy upon me therefore, O Lord, according to Thy great goodness, according to the multitude of thy mercies do away my offences. *Psal. 51.*

Who alas, can tell how oft he offendeth! O cleanse Thou me from my secret Faults, from all my sins of Ignorance, or Infirmary, or Omission, or which I have not observed,

served, or which I have forgot;  
Lord, lay none of them to my  
charge; Father forgive me; Lord  
Jesus have mercy upon me.

O remember not the sins and of-  
fences of my youth, but receive me,  
O Heavenly Father, into the arms  
of thy Fatherly compassion, as thou  
didst the returning Prodigal, and  
forgive me all my transgressions,  
for the merits of Jesus, Thy only  
well-beloved Son, and my Saviour.  
*Amen, Amen.*

When you have thus confess  
your sins, good *Phil.* endeavour to  
be still more sensible of them, and  
to bewail them, with a true peni-  
tential hatred, and shame, and sor-  
row for them, then make steady  
resolutions of forsaking them, and  
cry earnestly to God for pardon  
and grace, for you must as well  
put on the New Man, as put off  
the Old, *Eph. 4. 21.* Of all which  
acts of repentance, I give you the  
fol-

following instances, and advise you to say them over as devoutly as possibly you can.

*Acts of Shame.*

O Lord God, I am ashamed, and blush to lift up my face to Thee, for my iniquities are increased over my head, and my trespasses are grown up unto the Heavens! *Ezra* 9. 6.

O my Soul, what fruit have I reapt from all the pleasures of sin which flattered me, but vanity, and vexation of Spirit!

Lord, I am ashamed of my own folly and madness, and dissingenuity, when I call to mind how greedily I have sucked in my own pollution; how treacherously I have betrayed my own soul to temptations, and combined with the very Devils, to hasten and increase my own damnation; how obstinately I have fled from Thee, when Thy mercy pursued me with promises of

of pardon; how unworthily I have abused Thy goodness and forbearance, and long-suffering, which should have led me to repentance.

Surely, after I was turned I repented; and since I have considered my ways, I am ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I bear the reproach of my youth, *Jer. 31. 19.*

*Acts of Abhorrence.*

I hate all evil ways, O Lord, but Thy Law will I love, *Psal. 119.*

O Lord God, nothing is more abominable in thy sight, or more diabolical; nothing more defaces Thy Divine Image, or makes me more odious in Thy purest eyes, than sin; and therefore I hate and abhor it!

O Lord God, I confess I have nothing good in me, nothing that can any way move Thee, to compassionate so loathsome a Sinner, but Thy own free and undeserved,  
and

and infinite Mercy, and the Merits of my Saviour!

O Lord God, I cannot but admire the riches of Thy goodness, who hast spared me so long and hast given me this opportunity of repentance, O do Thou yet magnify Thy mercy more in my forgiveness; O cleanse me from all that filth my soul hath contracted, which now renders me odious to my own self, as well as to Thee!

*Acts of Contrition.*

Miserable wretch that I am, that I should begin so early to offend my Creator, and sin so much in so short a time!

Lord, I fear I never yet thoroughly considered how evil, and how bitter a thing it is to depart from Thee, O make me every day more and more sensible of the Error of my ways, and of my own infinite vileness!

Misc-



Miserable wretch that I am, that ever I should commit those Sins which expose me to all the vials of Thy wrath, to all the curses of Thy Law, to all Thy Judgments temporal or spiritual in this life, and to all the horrors and despair, and torments of the damned in the life to come!

Miserable wretch that I am, that ever I should transgress that Law of Thine, O God, which is so just, and holy, and good, and perfect, and so condescending to my infirmities; and in keeping of which there are so great, so unconceivable Rewards!

O that with *Mary Magdalen*, I could weep much and love much, having so much to be forgiven!  
*Luke 7. 38.*

O gracious Lord, look on me, as Thou didst on *Peter*, and let Thy compassionate look so pierce my heart, that I may weep bitterly for my sins! *Luke 22. 61.*

O

O Lord God, break this hard heart, for Thou only canst do it, and melt it into tears of Contrition! Miserable wretch that I am, that I should sin so much, and yet grieve so little!

Wo is me, miserable wretch, wo is me, that ever I should offend so indulgent, so liberal, so tender a Father!

Wo is me, that ever I should repay the infinite love, and the intolerable Sufferings of my Saviour for me, with nothing but those Sins which occasioned those very Sufferings!

Wo is me, that ever I should grieve the Holy Spirit, by rejecting so many of his good motions, from whom only I derive Grace and Consolation!

O Lord God, every slight worldly trouble is apt to draw plenty of tears from mine eyes, but when I would weep for my sins, which are the greatest Calamities that can possibly

possibly befall me, either my eyes are dry, or my tears too few, to bewail so many provocations!

O blessed Spirit, instill true penitent sorrow into my soul, make my head waters, and my eyes fountains of tears, or do Thou supply the want of them with sighs and groans unutterable! *Rom. 8. 26.*

But alas, I know all the tears I can possibly shed, can never wash away the least of my sins, 'tis Thy Blood only, Lord, that can do it!

O blessed Saviour, how can I ever sufficiently lament the guilt of my sins, which was so great, that nothing but Thy own inestimable Blood could expiate!

O Heavenly Father, in the defect of my own tears, I offer Thee the Blood of thy own well-beloved Son, for his sake have mercy upon me. *Amen, Amen.*

*Resolution.*

O Lord God, with shame I confess, that other Lords besides thee  
D have

have hitherto had dominion over me, *Isa. 26.*

I have been in the snare of the Devil, and have been led captive by him, and sin hath reigned in my mortal body, and I have obeyed it in the lusts thereof, but henceforth I resolve to serve none but Thee, and from this very moment I utterly forsake all my sins, and turn to thee ! *2 Tim. 2. Rom. 6.*

O my God, I do from my heart renew my Baptifmal Vow, which alas, I have hitherto fo often violated ; I do forever renounce the Devil and all his Works, and all his temptations, I do forever renounce all the Vanities of this wicked world, which may pervert me from thy Service, and all the sinful lusts of the Flesh.

O my God, I do stedfastly believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, and I will keep thy holy Will, and Commandments, and walk

walk in the same all the days of my life.

All this am I bound to do and believe, and by thy help, so I will, and I heartily thank thee, O Heavenly Father, who hast called me to this state of salvation, through Jesus Christ my Saviour, and I humbly pray thee for his sake, to give me grace, that I may continue in the same to my lives end.

*Oblation.*

Blessed be Thy Name, O Lord God, who hast set before me life and death, and hast bid me chuse life.

Behold, Lord, I do with all my heart chuse life, I chuse Thee, O my God, for thou art my life.

Save, Lord, and hear me, O King of Heaven, and accept my Sacrifice, even the Sacrifice of my whole heart, which I now give thee.

O my God, I offer thee my senses, and passions, and all my faculties, I offer thee all my desires, all my designs, all my studies, all my

endeavours, all the remainder of my life, all that I have, or am, I offer up all entirely to thy service.

Lord, sanctify me wholly, that my whole Spirit, Soul, and Body, may become thy Temple. O do Thou dwell in me, and be Thou my God, and I will be thy servant.

*Amen, Amen. 1 Cor. 6.*

*Acts of Charity.*

O Lord God, I do from henceforth resolve to love my Neighbour as my self, and to love him not in word only, but in deed and in truth, *John 1. 3.*

I do from my heart forgive all men their trespasses, do thou Lord forgive them also.

Lord bless them that hate me, and do good to them that have any way despitefully used me, O repay them good for evil.

O my God, bless all those that I have any way wronged, have mercy on all those to whose sins I have been any way accessary, and give  
them

*for Winchester Scholars.* 73  
them all grace to forgive me. *A-*  
*men, Amen.*

*Petition for Pardon.*

O thou Father of mercies, and  
God of all consolation, be merciful  
to me a miserable sinner.

Lord, remember all thy gracious  
calls of sinners to repentance, all  
thy protestations that thou deligh-  
test not in the death of him that  
dies, and that thou wouldst have  
all to be saved, *Ex. 18. 32. 1 Tim. 2. 4.*

Lord, remember all the exceed-  
ing great and precious promises  
which thou hast made to penitent  
sinners.

Lord, remember that thy mercy  
is over all thy works, that in mercy  
Thou delightest, and that all the  
Holy Angels seeing Thee well  
pleased in the exercise of that  
mercy, rejoyce at the conversion  
of a sinner, that the greater my  
sins are, the more will that mercy  
be magnified in my forgiveness,  
*Luke 15. 10.*

Lord, remember that thou didst so love the world, as to give thy only beloved Son a ransom for it, *John 3. Rom. 8.*

O heavenly Father, thou that sparedst not thy only Son, but deliveredst him up for us, wilt thou not with him also freely give us all things; and if all things, wilt thou not also give us the pardon of our sins?

O my God, I firmly believe thou wilt; on that ransom my Saviour hath paid for me, and on all thy gracious promises of pardon, which for his sake thou hast made to me, I wholly rely; here only is the sure and stedfast anchor of my soul, to which my Faith and Hope shall forever adhere.

All this, Lord, do I plead, to implore thy Forgiveness.

Behold, Lord, though my Failings are many, yet to the utmost of my power I have confest, and bewailed, and forsaken my Transgressions:



sions: Behold, Lord, I come at thy call, and I come weary and heavy laden with the burthen of my sins, be it unto me according to thy Word. O thou that art faithful and just, forgive me my sins, and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Lord, do thou in no wise cast me from thee, but heal my back-slidings, and love me freely, ease me of my burthen, that I may find rest in thee, and say unto my soul, Be of good chear, thy sins are forgiven thee, *Mat. 11.29.*  
*1 John 1. 9. John 6. 36. Hos. 14.4.*

O Heavenly Father, for Thine own infinite mercies sake, for thy truth and promise sake, for all the Merits and Sufferings of the Son of thy love, in whom thou art always well pleased, pardon all my sins and failings, and receive me into thy Favour. *Amen, O Lord God, Amen, Amen.*

*A Petition for grace in general.*

**O** Lord God, I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous Judgments, *Psal.* 119.

But alas ! I am able of my self to do nothing that is good, not so much as to think one good thought, and I no sooner shall rise from my knees, but I fear I shall be tempted to those very sins I have now so solemnly renounced, and those temptations will certainly overcome me, unless Thou, Lord, dost seasonably interpose thy grace to withhold me.

But I can do all things through Thee strengthening me : Do Thou then, O Blessed Saviour, perfect Thy strength in my weakness, for in thee only is my trust, *Phil.* 3.

O my God, Thou hast promised to give thy holy Spirit to those that  
ask

ask it, *Luke 11. 13.* Behold, Lord, I do humbly, I do earnestly ask Thy Holy Spirit now of Thee, O fulfill Thy gracious promise to me, O vouchsafe me that holy spirit I pray for, to purify my corrupt nature, to strengthen my weakness, to comfort me in troubles, to support me in discouragements, to succour me in temptations, and to assist me in all parts of my duty, that I may ever hereafter live in thy fear, and in constant, sincere, and universal obedience to all thy righteous Laws.

Thou, O searcher of Hearts, knowest the sin (or sins) I am most inclined to, [*Here name it or them*] and herein will lie my greatest danger of back-sliding; But, O my God, I beg a double portion of thy invisible aid against it, (*or them.*) Hold Thou up my goings in Thy paths, that my Foot-steps slip not; O work in me that victorious Faith, by which I may over-come the

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World, the Devil, and my own corrupt Nature, 1 *John* 5.

True it is, O Lord God, that there are many sins which upon examination I find, through thy grace, I have not yet committed, and therefore not unto me, Lord, but to thy name be the glory; but alas! there is in my corrupt nature so great a proneness to evil, so great a curiosity to try what sin is, that without thy restraining grace, every temptation when I shall have more age and liberty, and opportunity to enforce it, will be apt to draw me from my obedience, and to overthrow all my present resolutions.

But my help standeth in thee, O great Creator, who hast made Heaven and Earth, and I commit my soul to thy keeping, O thou that art Faithful as well as Almighty, keep that safe which is committed to thy trust, watch over me, that I may not be beguiled by the deceitfulness of  
sin,

sin, or betrayed by my own treacherous heart, or surprized by my ghostly Enemies ; and give me grace to watch and to pray incessantly my self, lest I enter into temptation. Hear Lord from Heaven, and succour me, for the alone Merits of Jesus my Saviour. *Amen, Amen.* 1 Pet. 4. 19.

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*Petition for particular Graces.*

O That my ways, Lord, were made so direct, that I might keep thy Statutes, for then shall I not be confounded, when I have respect unto all thy Commandments, *Psal.* 119.

Vouchsafe me thy Holy Spirit, therefore, O Lord God, to work in me whatever is well-pleasing in thy sight, that for the time to come, I may bring forth fruits meet for Repentance.

O let it be thy good pleasure to  
create

create in me a saving knowledge of thee, and of my duty, justifying Faith, true sanctifying Grace, ~~and~~ a purifying Hope, an ardent Love, and a filial Fear of thee! a constant desire of pleasing thee, and a great tenderness of offending thee!

Lord, create in me a penitent heart, a resigned will, and mortified affections, an habitual mindfulness of thy presence, ~~and~~ a steady devotion in my Prayers, sincere intentions and zeal for thy Glory, perseverance in all holy purposes, and constancy in all trials and temptations.

Lord, create in me a reverential awe of thy Name, a delight in thy Service, a sacred regard to thy day and house of Prayer, and a great attention to thy Word; a daily care of my time, and diligence in my studies.

Lord, make me chaste and temperate, humble and advisable, and patient of reproof, and create in me a chearful and meek, a contented  
and

and considerate, a quiet and peaceful Spirit.

Lord, bless me with health, and competency of living, with a good understanding, a retentive memory, and a ready apprehension, and with such a measure of temporal good things, as thou seest fit for me, and give me grace to make a right use of all those blessings I have already received.

Lord, purify my thoughts, bridle my tongue, guide all my actions, guard all my senses, stop my ears, and turn away my eyes from sin and vanity.

Lord, give me grace to be just in all my dealing, to do to all men as I would they should do to me, to be subject to my Parents, and to all my Superiors, to the King as Supreme, and to all Civil Magistrates, to the Pastors of thy Church, and to all my Governors in this place: O grant that I may render due honour and obedience to them all in their several Stations.

Lord,

Lord, make me willing to forgive injuries, and unwilling to offer any; make me grateful to my Benefactors, friendly to my Equals, condescending to my Inferiors, compassionate to the Afflicted, charitable to the Poor according to my Ability, a lover of good men, and kind to my Enemies, and give me grace to keep always a conscience void of offence towards Thee, and towards men, and to continue in the Communion of thy Church, without wavering.

O merciful God, keep thy servant from all wilful, deliberate or presumptuous sins, and let no wickedness have dominion over me.

From Stubbornness and Pride, Idleness and Sloth, Intemperance and youthful Lusts, Inconstancy and Lying, good Lord deliver me.

From irreligious Principles, and false Teachers, unruly Passions, and violent Temptations, from contracting vitious Habits, or taking pleasure in sin, from prophaneness  
and



and ill company, envy and malice, detraction and uncharitableness, good Lord deliver me.

From the errors and vices of the Age, and all remanent affections to sin, from the sin (or sins) my corrupt nature is most inclined to [*Here name it, or them.*] from whatsoever is offensive to thee, or destructive to my own Soul, good Lord deliver me.

Hear me, O Heavenly Father, and confirm my whole life to the example of my blessed Saviour, and that for his sake, in whose holy words I sum up all my wants, *Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.*

You have now, good *Phil.* by God's help, gone over the hardest part of your preparation for the Holy Sacrament; the next thing you are to do, is to examine your self, whether you do sufficiently understand what the Sacrament is, then to ask your self with what intentions you do approach it, and to pray for  
God's

God's grace to dispose you for worthy Receiving ; and all these particulars, together with all that you are to know, and believe, concerning the Blessed Sacrament, are contained in these following Meditations, which I advise you to read over devoutly, at several times, till you are in some measure affected with them.

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*Meditations on the Holy  
Eucharist.*

*On the outward Elements.*

**I** Adore Thee, O blessed Jesus, my Lord, and my God, when I consider what that Sacrament is, to which thou now invitest me, and of what parts it consists ; of an outward and visible sign, and of an inward and spiritual grace ! For Thou, Lord, who knowest our infirmities, and how little able we  
are

*for Winchester Scholars.* 89

are to conceive things heavenly and spiritual, in pity to our dark and feeble apprehensions, hast ordained outward and obvious, and visible Signs to represent to our minds thy Grace which is inward and invisible; thou hast ordained Bread and Wine, which is our corporal Food, to picture out to our Faith the Food of our Souls.

*On the inward part, or thing signified.*

I know, O my God, that I must look through the outward Elements, and fix my Faith on that which they signifie, and which is the inward and invisible Grace, even thy own blessed Body and Blood, which is verily and indeed taken and received by the faithful in the Lord's Supper.

But tell me, O thou whom my Soul loveth, how canst thou give us thy Flesh to eat?

Lord, Thou hast told me that Thy words, they are Spirit, and they

they are Life, and are therefore not carnally to be understood ; Lord, I believe, help Thou my unbelief !  
*John 6.*

I believe thy Body and Blood to be as really present in the Holy Sacrament as thy Divine Power can make it, though the manner of thy mysterious Presence I cannot comprehend.

Lord, I believe that the Bread that we break, and the Cup that we drink, are not bare Signs only but the real Communication of thy Body and thy Blood, and Pledges to assure me of it ; and I verily believe, that if with due Preparation I come to thy Altar, as certainly as I receive the outward Signs, so certainly shall I receive the thing signified, even thy most blessed Body and Blood, to receive which inestimable Blessing, O merciful Lord, do thou fit and prepare me. *Amen, Amen. 1 Cor. 10.*

*Who*

*Who instituted it?*

I adore Thee, O blessed Jesus, my Lord, and my God, when I consider that this Holy Sacrament was thy own Institution; for it was Thou, Lord, who in the night thou wast betrayed, didst take Bread, and after that the Cup, and didst bless them, and give them to thy Disciples. O blessed Saviour, let thy Divinity thus stamp on it, strike into my Soul an holy awe and reverence in approaching it: O create in me Heavenly Dispositions to celebrate so heavenly an Institution! *Amen, Amen.*

*For what end?*

I adore Thee, O blessed Jesus, my Lord, and my God, when I consider for what end thou didst institute the Holy Sacrament, implied in thy own Command, Do this in remembrance of me.

But what need this Command, O gracious Lord, is it possible for me, ever to forget Thee my Saviour,  
who

who hast done so great things for me?

Alas, alas! my own sad experience tells me it is, wo is me, every temptation, every vanity is apt to make me forget Thee, though Thy own dying words bid me remember Thee!

But, O blessed Lord, for thy infinite Mercies sake pardon all my stupid forgetfulness and ingratitude hitherto, and do thou now create in me such a thankful and lively remembrance of thy dying for me, that may excite me to give up my self entirely to Thee, as thou didst give up thy self on the Cross for me. *Amen, Amen.*

*A Thanksgiving for Christ's sufferings*

O Thou my crucified Saviour, Glory be to Thee, for causing Thy Sufferings to be registred in the Gospel; there I have read and remember the wonders and triumphs of thy Almighty Love; for which I  
will

will always adore and praise thee.

I remember, O gracious Lord, how thou who thoughtest it no robbery to be equal with God, wast made in the fashion of frail man, *Phil. 2.* of the vilest and most contemptible of men; for thou tookst on thee the form of a very Servant; I remember how many reproaches, and contradictions, and blasphemies, and persecutions thou didst endure from a wicked and perverse generation, and all this to save us sinful men.

*O Lord Jesus, was ever sorrow like unto Thy sorrow? Worthy art thou, O Lamb, that wast slain, to receive Power, and Riches, and Wisdom, and Strength, and Honour, and Glory and Blessing, Rev. 15. 12.*

I remember, O gracious Lord, how Thou didst endure a most bitter Agony, and didst sweat great drops of Blood, falling to the ground; how thou who art God  
above

above all, blessed for ever, wast treacherously betrayed, and apprehended, and bound as a Malefactor; how Thou wast set at nought by *Herod*, and his Men of War, and forsaken of all thy Disciples, and denyed by *Peter*, and all this to save us sinful Men!  
*Rom. 9. 5.*

*O Lord Jesus, was ever, &c.*

I remember how thou, O God of Truth, was accused by false Witnesses, how thou whom all the Angels adore, wast blind-folded & buffeted, and mockt, and spit upon, and stript naked, and scourged, and all this that we might be healed by Thy Stripes, and to save us sinful Men!

*O Lord Jesus, was ever, &c.*

I remember Lord, how Thou that art the great Judge of Heaven and Earth, wast Thyself dragged to the Judgment-Seat, and condemned; how Thou, O King of heaven, wast crown'd with Thorns,  
 and



and opprest with the weight of  
thy own Cross, and all this to save  
us sinful Men!

*O Lord Jesus, was ever, &c.*

I remember, O blessed Saviour,  
how thou who art the Lord of  
Glory, and the sole Author of life,  
wast put to a most ignominious  
death, how thy hands and thy feet  
were nailed to a Cross, how thou  
wast crucified between two thieves,  
and numbred with the Transgres-  
sors, how thou hadst a Potion gi-  
ven thee to imbitter thy very last  
Gasp, and all this to save us sinful  
Men!

*O Lord Jesus, was ever, &c.*

I remember, O gracious Lord,  
how when thou wert hanging on  
the very Cross, Thou wast scoffed  
at and reviled, how infinitely then  
thou wert afflicted, and bruised,  
for our Transgressions, when the  
iniquities of us all were laid on thy  
shoulders; how thou didst then  
express an anguish greater than all  
the

the tortures of Thy Crucifixion, when thou didst cry out, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? And how thou didst at the last give up the Ghost, and die Thy self, that we might live? *Isa. 53.*

*O Lord Jesus, was ever, &c.*

I unfeignedly believe, O gracious Lord, that thou didst suffer all this for sinful men, and in particular for me, when we were all Thy utter enemies, and had nothing in us to move Thee to pity us, but our extream misery, nothing to move Thee to save us, but our great unworthiness, and thy greater Mercy.

O the depth of the Riches of thy Love, blessed Lord, how unutterable is thy Mercy, and thy Love past finding out.

O all ye holy Angels, behold and wonder, wretched man hath sinned against God, and God himself has suffered the Sinners punishment.

*Was*

*Was there ever any sorrow like that which my Lord and my God endured for me?*

*Was there any love like to that love my Lord and my God has shewed to me?*

O ye blessed Host of Heaven, who rejoyce at the Conversion of one single Sinner, Adore and Praise my Crucified Saviour, who died for the sins of the World; Adore and Praise that unknown Sorrow, that wonderful Love, which you your selves must needs Admire!

O my gracious Lord, my heart is now full of the sense of Thy Love, and what have I to return to Thee, but Love again? 'Tis all I have to offer Thee, accept it, O merciful Lord, imperfect as it is, and do Thou daily heighten my sense of Thy Love to me, that I may daily heighten my Love to Thee!

O Thou infinite Lover of Souls, with all my heart I love, I praise, I adore thy Love to me, but alas, I can never do it enough!

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O do Thou at last, gracious Lord, translate me to thy Kingdom of Glory, that there I may love thee to the utmost capacity of a Creature, and praise thee to all eternity *Amen, Lord Jesus. Amen, Amen.*

*What benefits we receive by it.*

I adore thee, O Blessed Jesu, my Lord, and my God, when I consider the Benefits which through thy mercy we receive by thy Holy Sacrament !

Glory be to thee, O Lord, who there makest thy own Body and Blood to become our spiritual food to strengthen and refresh our Souls !

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, who by this Heavenly food dost mystically unite us to thy self: for nothing becomes one with our bodies more, than the bodily food we eat, which turns into our very substance; and nothing makes us become One with Thee more, than when thou vouchsafest to become the very food of our souls !

Glory

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, who  
by this immortal food dost nourish  
our souls to live the life of Grace  
here, and dost raise us up to life  
everlasting hereafter! Lord, do  
Thou evermore give me this Bread!  
*Amen, Amen. John 6. 52.*

*Motives of Receiving.*

O Blessed Saviour! What more  
powerful Motives can I have to  
perswade me to Communicate, than  
the Command, and the admirable  
effects of the holy Sacrament!

But alas! my corrupt nature is  
apt to suggest to me low and base  
inducements to this duty, such as  
are, fear of my Superiors displea-  
sure, if I abstain, or shame of not  
appearing as devout as my equals,  
or the meer custom of the Place, or  
of the Season!

But, Lord, I do from my heart  
renounce all these and the like car-  
nal Considerations, and I come to  
thy Altar to renew my Baptismal

Covenant with thee, of which thy Sacrament is a Seal.

I come to testifie my sense of thy Love, O Heavenly Father, in so loving the World, as to give up thy only Son to die for me,

I come to testifie my Faith in Thee, and my love toward Thee, O blessed Saviour, and thankfully to commemorate thy wonderful love in dying for me.

I come, Lord, to testifie my steadfastness in the Communion of thy Church, and my Charity to all the world.

I come to thy Table, O Lord, out of the sense I have, of the want of that spiritual food, to which thou there invitest me.

Alas, Alas! I am soon apt to grow weary of well-doing, a few prayers, every little duty is apt to tire me, every slight temptation is apt to overcome me, and I know there is no food can strengthen my soul but thy Body, no cordial can  
revive

revive my drooping obedience, but thy Blood, and 'tis thy most blessed Body and Blood I hunger and thirst after, O Gracious Lord, grant that I, and all that communicate with me, may feel its saving efficacy. O Feed, O Refresh, O Nourish our Souls with it to life everlasting, and that for thy own infinite mercy sake, which moved Thee to offer up thy Body and Blood for us! *Amen Amen.*

*Prayer for Preparation.*

Blessed Lord Jesus! I even tremble when I consider that he that eateth and drinketh unworthily is guilty of thy Body and Blood, and eateth and drinketh damnation to his own soul, and this severe Sentence on unworthy Communicants, makes me afraid to come to thy Altar. *I Cor. 11.*

But when I consider that Thy sentence is as severe against those, who being invited refuse to come,

for thou hast said, they shall not taste of thy Supper; and unless we eat thy flesh, and drink thy blood, we have no life in us, I am then afraid to keep away. *John 6.*

But blessed be Thy mercy, O Lord, for in this streight my Soul is in, Thou art my guide, Thou by giving me this opportunity of receiving, invitest me to thy Table, Thou callest me to seek Thy face, and my heart replies, Thy face Lord will I seek!

If Thou, Lord, shouldest be extreme to mark what is done amiss, Alas, alas! I am then unfit, not only to Communicate, but to say even my daily Prayers.

I know, Lord, that if I should stay till I am worthy to come, I should then never come; and therefore though I am unworthy of so unspeakable a mercy, yet I come to beg thy Grace to make me worthy, or at least such as thou wilt accept!



O Blessed Jesus, do thou so open my eye of Faith to discern thy Body and Blood in the Holy Sacrament, do thou so dispose my soul, at this time to Communicate, that I may feel all the happy effects of thy own Divine Institution, that my soul may receive such lasting impressions of thy goodness, and be so ravisht with the love of thee, and with the incomparable delights of thy Service, and with such an early fore-taste of Heaven, that all the Pleasures of sin, which in my growing years may tempt me, may appear to me tasteless and unwelcome.

O Heavenly Father, cloath me with the Wedding-garment, even the Graces of my blessed Saviour, for then am I sure to be a welcome guest to thy Table, when I shall come thither in the likeness of thy only well-beloved Son, in whom thou art always well-pleased !

O Heavenly Father, fill me with

a lively Faith, profound Humility, filial Obedience, inflamed Affections, and universal Charity; O raise in my Soul, all those Heavenly transports of Zeal and Devotion, of Love and Desire, of Joy and Delight, of Praise and Thanksgiving, which become the remembrance of a Crucified Saviour, which become one Redeemed by the Blood of God, and that for his sake only that Redeemed me, in whose holy words I sum up all the Graces and Blessings I stand in need of. *Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.*

This Prayer, *Phil.* is proper for you to add to your Morning Prayer, the day on which you are to Receive.

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*Directions in time of Receiving.*

**I**N time of Receiving, good *Phil.* labour all you can to keep your heart affected with the Publick Prayers,

Prayers, and to fill up all the vacant minutes with holy Ejaculations, such as these which follow.

*At going to the Altar*

In the multitude of thy Mercies, O Lord God, do I now approach thy Altar, O pardon my sins, and receive me graciously. *Amen, Amen.*

*At the Offertory.*

Blessed be Thou, O Lord God, for all Things come of Thee, and of Thy own do I now give Thee! 1 Chron. 29.

O let this Alms be an Odour of a sweet smell, a Sacrifice acceptable, and well pleasing to Thee! *Phil. 4.*

*At Consecration.*

O blessed Jesu, in the Bread broken, I call to mind thy Body torn with Whips, and Thorns, and Nails; and in the Wine poured out, I call to mind thy precious Blood, shed for my sins!

Glory be to Thee, O Lamb of God, that didst offer thy self a Sacrifice, to take away the sins of the

E S whole

whole World, Lord have mercy on me, and take away mine also.

*Whilst others are Communicating.*

O my God, whom have I in Heaven but Thee, and there is none on Earth I desire, in comparison of Thee. *Psal. 73.*

As the Hart panteth after the Water-brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God! *Psal. 42.*

My soul is a thirst for thee, O God, my God!

Blessed Saviour, I am thine, I am wholly thine, for thou hast bought me with a price, with the inestimable price of thy own Blood! *1 Cor. 6.*

Lord, suffer not the price of Thy own blood to perish, and I will always glorify Thee in my Body, and in my Spirit, which are thine.

If there be many Communicants, and thou hast much vacant time, *Phil.* and dost want devout matter to imploy thy thoughts, till all

all have Communicated, thou mayest then repeat the Thanksgiving for Ghrift's sufferings, p. 88. either in whole, or in part, as thou seest it needful.

*When the Priest cometh towards you.*

O Lord God, I now desire to renew my Covenant with Thee, and to seal it in this Sacrament!

Lord, put Thy Laws into my mind, and write them in my heart, and for the Passion of Thy Son, which I now commemorate, be merciful to my unrighteousness, my sin and my iniquities remember no more, and be Thou my God and I will be thy Servant. *Amen, Amen. Heb. 3. 10.*

O my soul taste now, and see, how gracious the Lord is! *Psal. 34.*

*After receiving the Bread.*

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, who feedest me with the Bread of Life.:  
*Heb. 10. 10.*

O.

O Lord God, who didst sanctify us by the offering of the Body of Jesus once for all, sanctify me, even me, O Heavenly Father!

*After receiving the Cup.*

Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus, who permittest me to drink of the fountain of life freely!

My beloved is mine, and I am his!

Blessed Saviour, Thou hast loved us, and washed us from our sins in Thy own Blood, and therefore to Thee be Glory and Dominion, for ever and ever. *Amen, Amen Rev. i.*

Glory be to Thee, O Jesus my Lord, and my God, for thus feeding my Soul with Thy most blessed Body and Blood; O let thy Heavenly food transfuse new life, and new vigour into my Soul, and into the Souls of all that Communicate with me, that our Faith may daily increase, that we may all grow more humble, and contrite for our sins, that we may all love Thee, and serve Thee, and delight in Thee, & praise Thee.

Thee more fervently, more incessantly than ever we have done heretofore! *Amen, Amen.*

After the Congregation is dismissed, *Phil.* if you cannot get privacy in your own Chamber, I advise you at the first opportunity to go into the Chappel, and there to give God thanks for that great blessing, of which he has now made you a partaker.

*A Thanksgiving after Receiving.*

O how plentiful is thy goodness, my Lord, and my God, which thou hast laid up for those that fear thee, which thou hast laid up for those that put their trust in thy mercy! *Psal. 31.*

Was it not love infinite enough, dearest Lord, to give thy self for me on the Cross? Was not that Sacrifice of thy self sufficient to expiate the sins of the whole world? What Lord couldest thou then do more for me?

**All**

All the mighty Host of Heaven stood amazed to see the Blood of God shed, to see their King of Glory, to whom from the first moment of their Being, they had sung their Hallelujahs, nailed to a Cross ; and all this to save sinners ! *Acts 20.*

Sure, Lord, none of all those blessed Spirits, with all the glorious Illuminations they had, could ever have imagined, how thou couldst give Thy self more to us than thou hast done.

And yet for all this, Thou hast wrought new miracles of love for us, and as if it had not been love enough to have given Thy self for us on the Cross, thou hast found out a way to give Thy self to us in the Holy Sacrament, to unite Thy self to us with the most intimate Union that 'tis possible to conceive, to become the very food, the life, the strength, the support of my soul, to become one with me, to become the very soul of my soul !



O Lord God, this is so un-  
conceivable a Blessing, this is so Divine  
an Union, that the very Angels,  
who so much desire to look into the  
great Mystery of our Redemption,  
who learn thy manifold Wisdom  
from thy Church, and frequent the  
places of thy Publick Worship, do  
crowd about our Altars, and with  
awful admiration, contemplate the  
Holy Sacrament! 1 *Pet.* 1. 12. *Eph.*  
3. 10. 1 *Cor.* 10.

What thanks then, gracious  
Lord, can I return to Thee for those  
wonders of love Thou hast shewed  
to me wretched sinner, which the  
very Angels, who never sinned, so  
much admire!

O dearest Lord, raise Thou my  
devotion to the highest pitch it can  
possibly reach, to praise Thee; en-  
large my Soul to its utmost extent  
to love Thee!

How can I ever more offend such  
riches of Mercy, as are in Thee,

O

O crucified Saviour ! and yet whilst I carry this body of sin about me, I fear I shall ; but, Lord, I do from my heart renounce and abhor all things that displease Thee, I resolve to the utmost of my power to resist all temptations, and to become as totally thine, as my frail nature will permit me.

O Gracious Lord, who hast so infinitely loved us, and given us everlasting Consolation, and good Hope through Grace, comfort my heart, and for ever establish it, in every good Word and Work !

Blessing, and Honour, and Glory, and Power, be unto him that sitteth on the Throne, and unto the Lamb for ever !

Rejoyce in the Lord Jesus, O my Soul, for of Him cometh my Salvation.

I will love Thee, O Lord my King, and I will praise thy name for ever and ever !

Glory be to thee, O Lord God,  
for

for giving me this blessed opportunity of coming to thy Altar! O grant I may never more pollute my Soul, which thou hast now made thy Temple to reside in, who art the God of Purity!

Praise the Lord, O my Soul, while I live, will I praise the Lord, as long as I have any Being, I will sing praises unto Thee, O blessed Saviour, my King and my God.

O gracious Lord, pardon all my failings, accept all my prayers and praises, and supply all my wants, which I sum up in Thy own blessed words, *Our Father, &c.*

Remember, good *Phil.* that when you have received the Holy Sacrament, your greatest work is then but beginning, which is, to observe all the promises you have made to God, of future Obedience, and therefore 't's good for you to read over now and then, and to renew your Resolutions, and to examine  
your

your self how you have kept them that you may preserve in your soul a serious sense of your duty, and a conscientious care to perform it.

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*A Form of general Thanksgiving.*

**W**orthy art Thou, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, to receive Glory, and Honour, and Power, for Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are, and were created! *Rev. 4. 8.*

Thou hast made Heaven, the Heaven of Heavens with all their Host, the Earth and all things that are therein, Thou preservest them all, and the Host of Heaven praiseth Thee! *Neb. 9. 6.*

Glory be to Thee, O Lord God Almighty, for creating man after thine own Image, and making so great variety of Creatures, to minister to his use!

Glory

Glory be to Thee, who givest us life and breath, and all things, who givest us fruitful seasons, and fillest our hearts with food and gladness!

*Acts 14.*

Glory be to Thee, O Lord God, for all thy many blessings and deliverances, for all thy forbearance and long-suffering to this sinful Nation; Glory be to Thee, O Lord, who hast made me also share in those publick mercies, and for that light of the Gospel thou vouchsafest us, of which the greatest part of the World is totally ignorant.

Glory be to Thee, O Heavenly Father, for my being, and preservation, strength and health, understanding and memory, Friends and Benefactors, and for all my abilities of mind and of body.

Glory be to Thee, O heavenly Father, for my competent livelihood, for my education in this College, for all my known or unobserved

observed Deliverances, and for the guard thy holy Angels keep over me.

But above all, Glory be to Thee for giving Thy only Son to dye for my sins, and for all the spiritual blessings he has purchas'd for me, for my Baptisme, and all the opportunities thou givest me of serving Thee, or of receiving the Holy Eucharist; for whatever sin I have escaped, for whatever good I have done, or thought, for all my helps of Grace, and hopes of Heaven, Glory be to Thee!

Praise the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me, praise his Holy Name.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus, for thy inexpressible Love to lost man: Glory be to Thee, O Lord, for condescending to take our frail nature on Thee: Glory be to Thee, for all thy Heavenly Doctrine to instruct us, Thy great Miracles to convince us, and Thy unblameable example to guide us!

Glory

Glory be to thee, O blessed Jesus,  
for thy Agony and Bloody Sweat,  
for all the torments and anguish  
of thy bitter Passion !

Glory be to thee, O blessed Jesus,  
for thy Glorious Resurrection, and  
Ascension into Heaven, and Inter-  
cession for us at the right hand of  
thy Father !

O Gracious Lord, thou that hast  
done so much for me, how can I  
ever sufficiently praise and love  
thee !

Praise the Lord Jesus, O my Soul,  
and all that is within me, praise his  
Holy Name !

Glory be to thee, O blessed Spi-  
rit, Glory be to thee, for all the mi-  
raculous Gifts and Graces thou  
didst bestow on the Apostles, to fit  
them to convert the world, and for  
inspiring the Sacred Pen-men of  
Holy Scripture !

Glory be to thee for instilling ho-  
ly thoughts into my Soul, for all the  
ghostly strength, and support, and  
com-

comfort, and illumination we receive from thee; for all thy preventing, and restraining, and sanctifying Grace, glory be to thee!

Blessed Spirit! let me never more by my sins grieve thee who art the Author of Life, and Joy to me!

Praise the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me, praise his holy Name.

*Here Phil. if you recite this Thanksgiving, on any great Festival or Saints day, you may add,*

Particularly, O Lord, I am bound to praise thee, for the great blessing we this day Commemorate, [*Here mention it, or instance, the Nativity of our blessed Saviour, or the like.*]

Or for the Saint, whose memory we this day celebrate, [*Here you may name him*] and add,

Praise the Lord therefore, O my Soul, and all that is within me, praise his holy Name.

Blessing, and Honour, and  
Thanks.



Thanksgiving, and Praise, more than I can utter, more than I can conceive, be unto thee, O most adorable Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, by all Angels, all Men, all Creatures, for ever and ever.

*Amen, Amen.*

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*A Form of General Intercession.*

**H**Oly, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, I miserable sinner, humbly acknowledge that I am altogether unworthy to pray for my self, but since thou hast commanded us to make Prayers and Intercessions for all men, in obedience to thy Command, and in confidence of thy unlimited Goodness, I commend to thy Mercy and Divine Providence, the wants and necessities of all mankind.

Lord, let it be thy good pleasure to restore to thy Church Catholick,  
primi-

primitive peace and purity, and to preserve it against the Gates of Hell.

Particularly, O Lord God, I implore thy mercy for this sinful Nation, for the iniquity of the Land is exceeding great.

Alas, alas ! we are unthankful for thy Blessings, incorrigible under thy Judgments, and unprofitable under all the means of Grace, and what can we expect from Thee, but to drink deep of the cup of thy Wrath ?

And wretch that I am, my sins have increased the heap of the publick impieties, and made their cry the louder to Heaven for vengeance ?

But, O Lord God, in the midst of Judgments remember Mercy ; Turn thou us, Lord, and so shall we be turned, O be favourable to thy People, and give us all Grace to turn to Thee, in Fasting, Weeping, and Mourning, to put a period  
to

to our provocations, and do Thou put a period to our punishments.

O Lord God, out of the multitude of Thy mercies, give us grace to fear Thee, and to keep Thy Commandments always, that it may be well with us, and Thou may'st rejoyce over us to do us good. *Amen, Amen.*

O let it be Thy good pleasure to bless us all, from the highest to the lowest, in our several stations.

To defend the Church of *England* from all the assaults of Schism, or Heresie, or Sacriledge; and to bless all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with Apostolical graces, exemplary lives, and sound doctrine!

O let it be Thy good pleasure, to save and defend our sovereign Lord the King, from all his Enemies; grant him a long and happy reign over us, and endue him with all those gifts and graces, which may make him a terror to evil works, and a great promoter of thy Glory.

F

Bless

Bless him, and all his Royal Relations with a great measure of all temporal good things, and with Eternal Glory in the world to come.

Lord, let it be Thy good pleasure, to grant,

To the Privy Council, Wisdom from above.

To all Magistrates, Integrity and Zeal for Religion.

To the Gentry and Commonalty, Pious and Just, Peaceable and Royal hearts.

To our Armies and Navy, Protection and Victory.

To the whole Nation, healthful and fruitful, and peaceful times.

Lord, let it be thy good pleasure to grant,

To all Jews, Turks, Infidels, Atheists, and Hereticks, Conversion.

To all Malefactors, and wicked Men, timely Repentance.

To all holy Persons, increase of Grace and Perseverance.

To all that I have tempted any way

way to sin, or with whom I have been a Companion in evil, Contrition and pardon.

Lord, let it be thy good pleasure, to bless all those I have any way wronged, and to forgive those that have wronged me, to comfort the disconsolate, to give health to the sick, ease to those that are in pain, patience to the afflicted, food to the hungry, cloaths to the naked, liberty to the Captive, and a safe delivery to Woman with Child.

Lord, be Thou a guide to the Traveller, safety to those that are at Sea, a refuge to the oppressed, be Thou a Father to the Fatherless, take care of Widdows, pitty and relieve all poor Prisoners of Debt, and have mercy on all Ideots & mad Persons.

Lord, let it be Thy good pleasure to bless my Parents, my Brothers and Sisters, and all my Relations, all my Friends, all my Governours in this College, all my Fellow Scholars, all who have commended

themselves to my Prayers, [particularly *Here you may name them if you see occasion,*] Lord, thou best knowest all our conditions, all our desires, all our wants, O do thou therefore sute thy graces and blessings, to our several necessities of Body or Soul!

Hear, O merciful Father, my Supplications, and that for the sake of Thy Son Jesus, who died for us all, in whose hoily words I sum up all my own, and the wants of all I pray for. *Our Father which, &c.*

If you are a Child of the College, good *Phil.* I advise you now and then to say that usual collect, wherein you give thanks for the Founder, and pray for the College, both which you have great reason to do, in private as well as in publick, when you consider that God has made the Founder an instrument of doing you much good, in advantaging your education, and the blessings you pray for on the College, you have your self a part in.

*A Thanksgiving for the Founder.*

**I** Give Thee humble and hearty thanks, O most merciful Father, for our Founder, *William of Wickham*, and all other our Benefactors, by whose Benefits we are in this College brought up to Godliness and good Learning, and I beseech Thee to give us grace, so to use these Thy blessings, to the glory of Thy Name, that we may become profitable members in the Church and Commonwealth, and may be at last partakers of the immortal Glory of the Resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord: *Amen, Amen.*

---

*Directions to use the foregoing Prayers.*

**H**Ave a great care, good *Phil.* that you make not any of the Rules here given you, a pretence to  
F 3 neglect.

neglect the Orders and Duties of the Place you live in, or of the School, for that were idleness rather than Devotion.

When you fix on a day to examine your Soul, or to confess your sins in, believe me, *Phil.* nothing will more enforce your Prayers and Repentance, than if they are accompanied with Fasting and Alms, as you may see in the example of *Cornelius*, whose Prayers, and Fasting, and Alms, all joyned together, were so acceptable to God, as made him send first an Angel from Heaven, and after the Angel an Apostle, and after the Apostle the Holy Ghost, to confirm and enlighten him. *Acts* 10.

But take notice, *Phil.* that all the Fasting I advise you to, is only on some Fasting-day, on some one Friday, or Saturday, when your Commons are less than on other days, to content your self with your bare allowance, and withal to lay aside  
some



some small matter, according to your stock, for the Poor.

But beware you do not your duty only to be seen, approved of by others, for this were hypocrisie; and take heed your performances do not puff you up with a vain conceit of your holiness, and that you are better than your fellows, for this were abominable pride; and alas! when you have done the best you can, you fall infinitely short of your duty, and 'tis God's meer mercy, not any the least worth in you, makes your service any way acceptable to him.

When you have once thoroughly examined your self, good *Phil.* and made a particular confession of the sins of your whole life, and begged pardon, there is not the same absolute necessity of such laborious examination, at your next Communicating, especially if you examine your self carefully every night, and daily repent of the evil of the day

F. 4.      past,

past, and are not conscious to your self of any great, or notorious sins, since your last Confession, for if you are not, the Examination and Confession only of what past since your last Communicating, together with a general Confession of your former sins, and a solemn renewing of your former acts of repentance, may serve the turn.

But if your Conscience accuses you of any culpable neglect in your last Examination, or of any great relapses, or of any wilful violations of your last Vows and Resolutions, in those, and the like case, 'tis the surest way to begin all your repentance again.

Remember *Phil.* that though 'tis God that works in you to will and to do of his good pleasure, yet God also commands you to work out your own salvation your self, and therefore you are to labour for those blessings, and to practise those graces you pray for, so that you are  
to

to read your duty in your prayers.

If you find any particular sin you are guilty of, or any particular grace which you want, or any particular blessing which you are to give thanks for, which is not here mentioned, 'tis easie for you to add it to your Prayers as occasion requires; in like manner if you meet with any passage, in any prayer, which does not either so directly, or so fully express the sense of your soul, as you could wish, leave it out.

If opportunity, leisure, and devotion all together, do at any time, when you go home, or at times of liberty incline you to make some present addition to your daily prayers, or like *Daniel* and holy *David*, not only at *Dan. 6. 10.* Morning and at Evening, but at Noon-day, to pray to God, thou mayest then use the Prayer for particular graces, p. 79. or those acts of Resolution and Oblation, p. 69. 71. or

on Sundays and Holydays the Form of general Thanksgiving, or on Fasting days, the Form of general Intercession, as may best sute with the season, and with your own affections.

---

*Directions concerning Infirmities.*

**I**F after all the care and pains you can take, and your petitions also for God's Grace, you find in the performance of any duty in your daily Prayers, Examination, Receiving the Holy Eucharist, or the like, great Coldness, and Wandrings, and imposedness and weariness of Spirit, and that your heart is little affected with it, and that you fall very much short of the Rules here laid down, and therefore are ready to conclude, that all you have done is in vain, and displeasing to God.

Be not disheartned at this, *Phil.*  
'tis

'tis a good sign to be so much grieved for your failings in your duty, 'tis an argument of a filial tenderness, and desire to serve God better, that your spirit is willing though your flesh is weak, and if you still continue your endeavours and prayers, patiently relying on God's infinite goodness, and on his gracious promises of hearing you, he will assuredly hear you in his good time.

Know, good *Phil.* that this is the case of thousands, as well as of your self, the very best of Christians sigh under the perverseness and impotence of their corrupt nature, and even the Just man falls seven times a day, through sins of Ignorance, or infirmity, or sudden surreption, or inadvertency, or the like; though it is true, he riseth again by an habitual repentance, and therefore be not discouraged, but daily beg pardon for your daily failings.

To ease you in such indispositions, or when you are also straitened in time, or diverted by any unavoidable avocations, I advise you to shorten your Prayers, and for the longer Morning and Evening Prayer, say the shorter; and as for the other parts of Devotion, throughout this whole Manual, they are cut into so many Breaks and Divisions, on purpose, that you may lengthen or shorten your Prayers, as may best comply with your occasions and infirmities; only let me warn you seriously, that under colour of indulging your infirmities, you do not indulge your sloth.

Be not then afflicted, good *Phil.* if you cannot come up exactly to the Rules here given you. Believe me, it was never imagiued you would; it was only hoped that you would endeavour it: And know that it is a great error of many devout souls, to think all they do signifies nothing, because they fall short of the Rules  
laid

laid down in their Books of Devotion; little considering that 'tis sincerity God requires of us, and not perfection; for if there be a willing mind in us, it is accepted according to that which a Man hath, and not according to that a Man hath not; 2 Cor. 8. 12: So that your Infirmities ought to humble, but not discourage you.

For instance, Suppose you should not be able, after all your endeavours and prayers, to shed any, or but few tears for your sins, be not too much cast down at it; for to be troubled for want of tears, is one sign of godly sorrow; and 'tis certain, though tears are very desirable, yet they are not always signs of true repentance, for Hypocrites may shed them, and there may be true godly sorrow without them; and perhaps God will at last give them to you, when his wisdom sees your heart in a fit temper for them.

Whensoever then you are troubled

bled with an afflicting sense of your infirmities, and for your many failings, I advice you to say this Prayer following, and to rest satisfied that He that died for you, will both hear, and accept, and succour you.

---

*A Prayer against Failings.*

**O** Thou compassionate Saviour of sinful man, look down from Heaven, and have mercy upon me wretched Sinner; O save me, O help me, for without Thee I can do nothing as I ought!

Miserable man that I am, my very Prayers and Repentance are accompanied with so many failings, that I am sometimes afraid that Thou Lord will not hear such Prayers, nor regard such Repentance!

But, O blessed Saviour, my Lord, and my God, 'tis Thy promise, not to discourage the least measure of grace. Thou wilt not quench the  
smoak.



smoaking Flax, or break the bruised Reed. *Mat. 12. 20.*

'Tis Thy practice, Lord, to comply with the weakness of Thy servants. Thou art the good Shepherd who carriest the tender Lambs in Thy very bosom, and gently leadeest those that be with young! *Is. 40. 11.*

Nay, Lord, 'tis Thy very nature so to do, for Thou Thy self hast felt humane infirmities, and canst not but commiserate those that sigh under them! *Heb. 2. 20. 4. 15.*

Why art thou then so heavy, O my soul, and why art thou so disquieted within me! O put thy trust in thy Saviour, who is the help of my countenance and my God. *Pf. 42.*

O gracious Lord, do Thou pity me, and accept my weak and imperfect performances, and supply by thy boundless mercy, all the defects in my duty; and if it be thy pleasure I should serve Thee better, O Lord God, increase Thy succours of grace and I shall then increase my obedience!

O

O thou Lover of Souls, for the sake of that infinite compassion of Thine, which moved Thee to die for me, hear me, and help me. *Amen, Lord Jesus, Amen, Amen.*

---

*Directions in time of Sicknes.*

**F**AR be it from you, good *Phil.* to counterfeit your self Sick at any time, to avoid the School, or the like, lest God send you Sicknes indeed, to punish your idleness and dissimulation.

But if it please God to visit you with a real Disease, let it be your first care to make your peace with Heaven, for God by taking you off from your usual Studies, does give you a call to Repentance, and the Examination of your self in the beginning of your Sicknes, is as seasonable and necessary as before your Communicating; besides, if your sickness proves dangerous, you  
will

will then, I doubt not, desire to communicate, so that to fit you both for the Holy Sacrament, and for Heaven, Examination and Repentance ought to be first in your thoughts.

Beware *Phil.* of deferring this duty, because you are young, and think you may have time enough to repent hereafter; for you see, that Persons younger than your self die, and you are not sure to out-live this Distemper; and if you should put it off till your Sicknes grows more on you, it may perhaps take away your senses; or if it does not, be sure it will much more indispose you to Prayer and Recollection.

In the beginning then of your sickness, begin your repentance, and say over this following Prayer, and do not only say, but practise it.

---

*A Prayer in the beginning of Sicknes.*

**O** Heavenly Father, who in thy Wisdom knowest what is best, for me, Glory be to thee.

Lord?

Lord, if it seem good in Thy sight divert this Distemper from me, which I now feel seizing on me, that I may employ my health to thy Glory, and Praise thy Name!

But if Thou art pleased it should grow on me, I willingly submit to Thy afflicting hand, for Thou art wont to chastise those whom Thou dost love, and I am sure, Thou wilt lay no more on me than Thou wilt enable me to bear. 1 Cor. 10.

I know, O my God, Thou sendest this Sickness on me for my good, even to humble and reform me, O grant it may work that saving effect in me!

Lord, create in me a true penitent sorrow for all my sins past, a stedfast Faith in Thee, and sincere Resolutions of Amendment for the time to come!

Deliver me from all frowardness and impatience, and give me an entire resignation to thy Divine Will; O suffer not the Disease to take

take away my senses, and do Thou continually supply my thoughts with holy Ejaculations ; Lord, bless all means that are used for my recovery, and restore me to my health in thy good time ; but if otherwise thou hast appointed for me, thy blessed will be done. O wean my affections from all things below, and fill me with ardent desires after Heaven : Lord, fit me for thy self, and then call me to those Joys unspeakable, and full of Glory, when thou pleasest, and that for the sake of thy only Son Jesus, my Saviour, in whose holy words I sum up all my wants, *Our Father, &c.*

---

*Ejaculations in time of Sickness.*

**F**ATHER, if it be possible, remove this Cup from me, nevertheless not my Will, but thine be done !  
*Matth. 26.*

Trouble and heaviness have taken hold on me, but my sure trust is in thee, O Lord !

For

Forfake me not, O my God,  
when my strength faileth me, haste  
thee to help me, O Lord God of  
my Salvation! *Psal.* 38.

Lord, teach me so to number my  
days, that I may apply my heart to  
wisdom! *Psal.* 90.

Deal thou with me, O Lord, ac-  
cording to thy Name, for sweet is  
thy mercy.

Lord, what is my hope! truly  
my hope is even in thee!

O my soul, tarry thou the Lord's  
leisure, be strong, and he shall com-  
fort thy heart, and put thou thy  
trust in the Lord! *Psal.* 27.

Into thy hands I commend my  
spirit, for thou hast redeem'd me,  
O Lord, thou God of Truth!

In my Father's House are many  
Mansions, and thou Lord Jesus, art  
gone before to prepare a place for  
us, that where thou art, we may  
be also! *John* 14. 2.

Lord, be merciful to me, misera-  
ble Sinner!

O Lord God, we must all at the last day appear before thy Judgment-Seat, O cleanse me from my sins, that I may be found blameless at the coming of the Lord Jesus!

As the day goeth away, and the shadows of the Evening are stretched out, so passeth away my life even like a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and vanisheth away!

*Jer. 6. Jam. 4.*

Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of Man conceiv'd, the good things which God has laid up for those that love him. Lord, do thou therefore enflame my soul with thy Love! *1 Cor. 2.*

I know, Lord, that thy Judgments are right, and thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to be troubled, *Psal. 119.*

O Heavenly Father, my hope is wholly in thy mercy, and in the Merits and Sufferings of my Saviour, O for his sake forgive and save me!

To

To these, and the like Ejaculations, *Phil.* which thou may'st gather thy self, thou mayest now and then either read a Psalm your self, or have one read to you, as particularly the 23. or 25. or 27. or 51. or any other that does best suit with thy condition.

I need give you no further directions for the time of Sicknes, because I presume, *Phil.* that when you feel your Sicknes prevailing on you, you will then send for a spiritual Guide, who will give you more particular advice, and minister to all the necessities of your soul, and therefore I shall only add this form of Thanksgiving.

---

*A Thanksgiving for Recovery.*

**G**LORY be to Thee, O Heavenly Father, for the Sicknes thou hast in mercy sent me!

Lord, the stripes thou didst lay on me, were the stripes of Love, Glory be to thee!

Be-



Before I was troubled, I went wrong, but now will I keep thy Word, *Psal.* 119.

It is good for me that I have been in trouble, that I might learn thy Statutes.

Glory be to thee, O Lord, Glory be to thee, for delivering me from the terrors of death, and restoring me to my Health again, Glory be to Thee!

I called upon the Lord in my trouble, and the Lord heard me at large! *Psal.* 118.

I shall not die but live, and declare the Works of the Lord!

Praise the Lord therefore, O my soul, as long as I have my life, which at first God gave me, and which he has now restored me, I will sing praises unto my God!

O Lord God, who hast in thy tender mercy prolong'd my days in this world, give me grace to spend that life thou hast now lengthned in thy service. O give me grace to per-

perform all my resolutions of new obedience, and so to live in the filial fear of thee, all the remainder of my time, that I may at last die at peace with my self, at peace with the whole world, and at peace with thee; and that for the sake of thy well-beloved Son, and my Saviour, in whose holy words I sum up all my wants. *Our Father, &c.*

To this you may add, if you think fit, the 103. Psalm.

To conclude, good *Phil.* if you have reapt any good from these Prayers and Instructions, be sure to give God hearty thanks for it, and let this encourage you to make the more frequent use of them, and God of his infinite mercy bless them every day more and more to your growth in grace, and to his own glory. *Amen.*

*F I N I S.*

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# THREE HYMNS

BY THE

*Author of the Manual of Prayers  
for the use of the Scholars of Win-  
chester College.*

---

## *A Morning* HYMN.

**A** Wake my Soul, and with the  
Sun,  
Thy daily stage of Duty run;  
Shake off dull Sloth, and early rise,  
To pay Thy morning Sacrifice.

Redeem thy mis-spent time that's  
past,  
Live this day, as if 'twere thy  
last:                    G                    Tim-

142 *A Morning* HYMN.

T'improve thy Talent take due  
care,  
'Gainst the great Day thy self  
prepare.

Let all thy Converse be sincere,  
Thy Conscience as the Noon-day  
clear ;  
Think how All-seeing God thy  
ways,  
And all thy secret Thoughts sur-  
veys.

Influenc'd by the Light divine,  
Let thy own Light in good Works  
shine :  
Reflect all Heaven's propitious  
ways,  
In ardent love, and chearful praise.

Wake, and lift up thy self, my  
Heart,  
And with the Angels bear thy  
part,  
Who all night long unwearied sing,  
Glory to the Eternal King,  
I awake,

I wake, I wake, ye heavenly Chaire,  
May your Devotion me inspire,  
That I like you my Age may spend,  
Like you may on my God attend.

May I like you in God delight,  
Have all day long my God in sight,  
Perform like you my Makers Will,  
O may I never more do ill.

Had I Your Wings, to Heaven  
I'd fly,  
But God shall that defect supply,  
And my Soul wing'd with warm  
desire,  
Shall all day long to Heav'n aspire.

Glory to thee who safe hast kept,  
And hast refresh't me whilst I slept.  
Grant Lord, when I from death  
shall wake,  
I may of endless Light partake.

I would not wake, not rise again,  
Ev'n Heav'n it self I would disdain;  
G 2 Wer't

244 *A Morning H Y M N.*

Wer't not Thou there to be enjoy'd,  
And I in Hymns to be employ'd:

Heav'n is, dear Lord, where er'e  
Thou art,  
O never then from me depart;  
For to my Soul 'tis Hell to be,  
But for one moment without thee.

3 Lord I my vows to thee renew,  
Scatter my Sins as Morning dew,  
Guard my first springs of thought,  
and will,  
And with thy self my Spirit fill.

4 Direct, controul, suggest this day,  
All I design, or do, or say;  
That all my Powers, with all their  
might,  
In thy sole Glory may unite.

Praise God, from whom all Blessings  
flow,  
Praise him all creatures here below,

Praise

*An Evening HYMN.* 145

Praise him above y' Angelick Host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

---

*An Evening HYMN.*

**G**Lory to thee, my God, this  
night,  
For all the Blessings of the Light;  
Keep me, O keep me King of Kings,  
Under thy own Almighty Wings.

Forgive me Lord, for thy dear  
Son,  
The ill that I this day have done,  
That with the world, my self and  
Thee,  
I, e're I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may  
dread  
The Grave as little as my Bed;  
Teach me to die, that so I may  
Triumphing rise at the last day.

146     *An Evening* HYMN.

O may my Soul on thee repose,  
And with sweet sleep mine Eye-lids  
close ;  
Sleep that may me more vig'rous  
make,  
To serve my God when I awake.

When in the night I sleepless lye,  
My Soul with Heavenly thoughts  
supply,  
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,  
No powers of darkness me molest.

Dull sleep of sense me to deprive,  
I am but half my days alive ;  
Thy faithful lovers, Lord, are  
griev'd,  
To lye so long of Thee bereav'd.

But though sleep o're my frailty  
reigns,  
Let it not hold me long in chains ;  
And now and then let loose my  
heart,  
Till ~~it~~ an Halleluiah dart.

The



*An Evening* HYMN. 147

The faster sleep the sense does bind,  
The more unfetter'd is the mind;  
O may my Soul from matter free,  
Thy unvail'd Goodness waking see!

O when shall I in endless day,  
For ever chase dark sleep away,  
And endless praise with th'Heaven-  
ly Chaire,  
Incessant sing, and never tire?

You my Blest Guardian, whilst I  
sleep,  
Close to my Bed your Vigills keep,  
Divine Love into me instill,  
Stop all the avenues of Ill.

Thought to thought with my  
Soul converse,  
Celestial joys to me rehearse,  
And in my stead all the night long,  
Sing to my God a grateful Song.

Praise God from whom all bles-  
sings flow,  
Praise him all Creatures here below,  
Praise

148 *A Midnight* HYMN.

Praise him above y' Angelick Host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

---

*A Midnight* HYMN.

**L**ord, now my Sleep does me  
forsake,  
The sole possession of me take  
Let no vain fancy me illude,  
No one impure desire intrude.

Blest Angels! while we silent lye,  
You Halleluiahs sing on high,  
You, ever wakeful near the Throne,  
Prostrate, adore the Three in One.

I now awake do with you joyn,  
To praise our God in Hymns divine:  
With you in Heav'n I hope to  
dwell.  
And bid the night and world fare-  
well.

My

*A Midnight HYMN.* 149

My Soul, when I shake off this  
dust,  
Lord, in thy Arms I will entrust;  
O make me thy peculiar care,  
Some heav'nly Mansion me prepare.

Give me a place at thy Saints  
feet,  
Or some fall'n Angel's vacant seat;  
I'll strive to sing as loud as they,  
Who sit above in brighter day.

O may I always ready stand;  
With my Lamp burning in my  
hand,  
May I in sight of Heav'n rejoyce,  
When e're I hear the Bridegrooms  
voice.

Glory to thee in light array'd,  
Who light thy dwelling place hast  
made,  
An immense Ocean of bright  
beams,  
From thy All-glorious Godhead  
streams.

The

150 *A Midnight* HYMN.

The Sun in its Meridian height,  
Is very darkness in thy sight:  
My Soul, O lighten, and enflame,  
With Thought and Love of thy  
great Name.

Blest Jesu, thou on Heav'n intent,  
Whole nights hast in Devotion  
spent,  
But I, frail Creature, soon am tir'd,  
And all my Zeal is soon expir'd.

My Soul how can'st Thou weary  
grow,  
Of Antedating Heav'n below,  
In sacred Hymns, and Divine Love,  
Which will eternal be above?

Shine on me Lord, new life im-  
part,  
Fresh ardours kindle in my heart;  
One ray of thy All quickning light,  
Dispels the sloth and clouds of  
night.

Lord,

*A Midnight* HYMN. 151

Lord, lest the tempter me sur-  
prize,

Watch over thine own Sacrifice,  
All loose, all idle thoughts cast out,  
And make my very dreams devout.

Praise God from whom all blef-  
sings flow,  
Praise him all Creatures here below,  
Praise him above y' Angelick Host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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FINIS.

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